

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-26 (Canceled).

Claim 27 (New): A method for improving the level of at least one mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C2),

the mechanical property relating at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior, the operating temperature range, the high-speed mechanical behavior and/or the change in the mechanical behavior over time,

the polyolefin composition (C2) comprising at least one modified polyolefin (P2) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes, the said polyolefin (P2) being modified by grafting with acid and/or anhydride groups, which groups are optionally completely or partially neutralized by a neutralizing agent,

up to a level which is improved both with respect to that of the mechanical property of the polyolefin composition (C2) and with respect to that of the mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C1) obtained by replacing, weight for weight in the polyolefin composition (C2), all the modified polyolefin (P2) by at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes,

the method comprising using the unmodified polyolefin (P1) as an additive of the polyolefin composition (C2).

Claim 28 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property relates at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior, and the said mechanical property comprises the tensile elastic modulus and/or the elongation at break.

Claim 29 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property relates at least to the operating temperature range, and the said mechanical property comprises the softening temperature in the Vicat 10N test.

Claim 30 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property relates at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior, and the said mechanical property comprises the impact strength and/or the peak force in the instrumented falling weight test.

Claim 31 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property relates at least to the change in the mechanical behavior over time, and the mechanical property comprises the tensile elastic modulus after 100 h under a stress of 10 MPa.

Claim 32 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the polyolefin (P1) is a polypropylene and the polyolefin (P2) is a polypropylene.

Claim 33 (New): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates either at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to the change in the mechanical behavior over time.

Claim 34 (New): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates either at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 35 (New): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 36 (New): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 37 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the ratio by weight  $q_{w2}$  of the polyolefin (P2) to the polyolefin composition (C2) [(P2) : (C2)] is, before the addition of the polyolefin (P1), greater than 0.99.

Claim 38 (New): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the ratio by weight  $r_w$  of the polyolefin (P1) to the polyolefin (P2) [(P1) : (P2)] is greater than 8 and less than 35.

Claim 39 (New): A method for improving the level of at least one mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C1),

the mechanical property relating at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior, the operating temperature range, the high-speed mechanical behavior and/or the change in the mechanical behavior over time,

the polyolefin composition (C1) comprising at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes,

up to a level which is improved both with respect to that of the mechanical property of the polyolefin composition (C1) and with respect to that of the mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C2) obtained by replacing, weight for weight in the polyolefin composition (C1), all the unmodified polyolefin (P1) by at least one at least one modified polyolefin (P2) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes, the said polyolefin (P2) being modified by grafting with acid and/or anhydride groups, which groups are optionally completely or partially neutralized by at least one neutralizing agent,

the method comprising using the modified polyolefin (P2) as additive of the polyolefin composition (C1).

Claim 40 (New): The method according to Claim 39, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and

- the mechanical property relates either at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to the change in the mechanical behavior over time.

Claim 41 (New): The method according to Claim 39, wherein:

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates either at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 42 (New): The method according to Claim 39, wherein:

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 43 (New): The method according to Claim 39, wherein:

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and

the mechanical property relates at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 44 (New): The method according to Claim 39, wherein the ratio by weight  $q_{wt}$  of the polyolefin (P1) to the polyolefin composition (C1) [(P1) : (C1)] is, before the addition of the polyolefin (P2), greater than 0.995.

Claim 45 (New): The method according to Claim 39, wherein the ratio by weight  $r_w$  of the polyolefin (P1) to the polyolefin (P2) [(P1) : (P2)] is greater than 8 and less than 35.

Claim 46 (New): A process for the preparation of a polyolefin composition which is improved with respect to a preexisting polyolefin composition (C1) comprising at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes,

the process being carried out in the need of improving the level of at least one mechanical property of the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1),

the mechanical property relating at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior, the operating temperature range, the high-speed mechanical behavior and/or the change in the mechanical behavior over time,

the level of the mechanical property being improved up to a level which is improved both with respect to that of the mechanical property of the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1) and with respect to that of the mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C2) obtained by replacing, weight for weight in the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1), all of the unmodified polyolefin (P1) by at least one modified polyolefin (P2) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes, the said polyolefin (P2) being modified by grafting with acid and/or anhydride groups which are optionally completely or partially neutralized by at least one neutralizing agent,

and the process comprising the addition of the modified polyolefin (P2) to the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1) during the actual preparation of the said composition or after having prepared the latter.

Claim 47 (New): The process according to Claim 41, wherein the polyolefin (P1) is a polypropylene and the polyolefin (P2) is a polypropylene.

Claim 48 (New): A semi-finished or finished article comprising an improved polyolefin composition prepared by the process according to Claim 46.

Claim 49 (New): A semi-finished or finished article comprising an improved polyolefin composition prepared by the process according to Claim 47.